



### LETTER FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Residents:

The City of Westminster is getting ready to spring into Spring! The appearance of the PEEP Show at the Carroll Arts Center is a sure sign that Spring has arrived. The PEEP Show runs from March 28 through April 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. each day. Visitors can vote for their favorite marshmallow peep creations—last year 190 creations containing 19,000 peeps received a total of 13,000 votes.

Another sure sign that Spring has arrived is the Twilight Egg Hunt for children ages 9-12 at King Park located off Chase Street from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on March 28 and the Easter Egg Hunt on March 30 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at its new location at City Park. And, of course, early bird pool memberships with a 20% discount go on sale March 31.

The second annual Downtown Restaurant Week will be held from April 19-April 27 and will feature breakfast, lunch and dinner specials from 13 restaurants—all for a price of \$5.13-\$30.13. The following restaurants will participate in Westminster Restaurant Week:

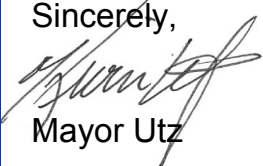
<b>Birdie's Café</b>	<b>Heinz Bakery</b>	<b>Papa Joe's</b>
<b>CUP Tea Bar and Café</b>	<b>J Café</b>	<b>Paradiso Ristorante</b>
<b>Giulianova's</b>	<b>Johansson's Dining House</b>	<b>O'Lordans Irish Pub</b>
<b>Harry's Main Street Grille</b>	<b>Maggie's</b>	<b>Rafael's</b>
	<b>Sideways Café</b>	

And, an expanded Flower and Jazz Festival is coming up on May 11th. This year the Festival will occupy the blocks between Longwell Avenue to John Street and will feature 36 vendors. This festival is always held the day before Mother's Day and is sure to offer lots of Mother's Day gift ideas. Be sure to visit the City Booth and pick up your **FREE** Mother's Day flower!

At the same time, the City will be making roadway infrastructure improvements to the downtown area, installing 146 new handicapped ramps and renovating an additional 64 ramps over the next three months. This project is totally grant funded by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Be sure to add these events to your calendar and enjoy our Springtime events. See you around downtown.

Sincerely,

  
Mayor Utz

## Online Access for Water/Sewer Accounts

Get 24/7 unlimited access to your water/sewer account information by registering online at [www.westminstermd.gov](http://www.westminstermd.gov). View your bill before it arrives in the mail, see payments made and pay your bill any time of day or night, weekends and holidays. You can pay your bill via Visa, MasterCard or Discover credit card through your online account.

## Recreation Events: March, April & May

# March-April-May

### **PARENT'S NIGHT OUT!**

Start making plans, because we have the child care covered!

Kids will have a great time playing games, doing crafts, watching movies, eating pizza and making new friends!

5-8:30pm \$15/first child, \$5 /additional-same family.

**March 9 & April 20 5-8:30pm**

Longwell Municipal Center, 11 Longwell Avenue

### **Corbit's Charge Ball**

**March 30 8-11pm**

Join us for period dancing and light refreshments on the 150th anniversary of the famous Civil War skirmish.

Tickets are \$20 (18 & over), \$10 (ages 12-17)

And free for under 12. Contact Kim at

[ujltd@msn.com](mailto:ujltd@msn.com) for more information!

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

**March 30**

10:30am (ages 1-4) 11:30am (ages 5-8)

Westminster City Park

Bunny petting zoo, face painting, concessions, prizes and, of course, THE EASTER BUNNY!

FREE! Sponsored by the Westminster Kiwanis Morning Club!

### **Twilight Egg Hunt**

**March 28**

6:30-7:30pm

Ages 9-12

Come search for thousands of eggs at KING PARK, Chase Street with your Westminster City Recreation Flashlight!!

FREE!

### **Mother Son Date Night!**

**May 1, 2013 6-8:30pm**

Martin's Westminster, 505 Jermor Lane

Join us for our annual Mother Son Date Night as we step back to the 1950's for a Sock Hop!

Enjoy music, dinner, dancing, photos and prizes!

Tickets are \$40 per adult and \$20 per child.

Call 410-848-9161 to order your tickets today!

### **Westminster Flower & Jazz Festival**

**May 11, 2013 10am-4pm Downtown Westminster**

Join us for a day of honoring moms, great music, good food, crafts, and, of course, flowers at this annual Westminster tradition.

Admission and parking is free!

Flower and Jazz Fun Run 5K at Wakefield Valley Community Trails 9am!

For more information call 410-848-9161!

### **Small Fry Triathlon**

**May 18 10am**

**Wakefield Valley Community Trail & Boulder Park, Tahoma Farm Road**

"Small Fries" will bike, run & "swim" through the obstacles at the Boulder Park in celebration of *National Kids to Parks Day!* Open to kids ages 3-5. \$10 to register. Call 410-848-9161!



### **Westminster Family Fitness Center**

**NO ENROLLMENT FEE\***

**\*with this coupon**

Bring this coupon with you when you enroll as a new member of the Westminster Family Fitness Center and pay

NO ENROLLMENT FEE!

Save up to \$150!

Cannot be combined with any other offer or discount.

Coupon expires May 31, 2013



### **Westminster Family Fitness Center**

**1 FREE ADMITANCE\***

**\*With this coupon**

Come try us and see why we're one of the most popular fitness centers in Westminster!

Coupon expires May 30, 2013



## From the Code Enforcement Office

### Remember to clear snow and ice from sidewalks



As a Reminder to Westminster Citizens within City limits:

Please remember to have your sidewalks cleared within 24 hrs of a snow or ice event. Failure to do so not only could result in liability on the property owner's behalf, but also a \$200 fine issued by Code Inspector.

*Stay safe during this winter season!*

### Be a Good Neighbor This Winter

After snow and ice stop falling, it's time to clear the white stuff away. Some citizens may have difficulty achieving this task due to age, disability, or other reasons. If you see that a neighbor might need help this winter clearing snow or ice from their sidewalk, driveway, car, or porch, be a good neighbor and lend a hand. Also, if you see a fire hydrant or stormdrain that is covered in snow, please take time to help emergency responders and Public Works employees by clearing these areas for quick and easy access should an emergency arise and to help avoid melting snow from flooding streets.

Avoid driving and traveling during wintry conditions. If you find that you must leave your home, leave with extra time and drive slowly and carefully. Try not to become upset at another driver going under the speed limit; remember—they are being safe! Always exercise extreme caution during hazardous conditions and stay safe this winter season.

### Christmas Tree Collection

By expanding our tree limb collection service to include Christmas trees during the month of January, the City has enough material to create mulch for City properties, with some to spare.

Our Public Works Department estimates that they can produce 200 tons of mulch from the Christmas trees and other tree limbs "donated" each year. Nationally, "Treecycling" programs are sprouting up in communities everywhere. Trees that were once destined for the landfill (at a cost of \$60/ton) are now taken to a central location and fed through machinery to make mulch. In Westminster, the Public Works department uses the mulch to maintain landscaping in our public spaces. For something so simple, mulch adds tremendous value to your landscape. It insulates the soil and plant roots from temperature extremes, protects soils from compaction, allows water to infiltrate the ground slowly, and decomposes to add vital nutrients and porosity to the soil. Besides that, it looks a lot better than bare dirt!

Christmas trees will be collected curbside for recycling on the following schedule:

Christmas trees will be collected every other Monday following the tree limb/brush bulk trash pickup schedule (more details on last page).

## Historic District Commission

The City of Westminster has a long standing policy of preserving our City's charming character, including our tree-lined streets and rich architectural heritage.

For many people, when they hear the phrase "historic building" they think that some major historic event took place at the building; i.e. "George Washington slept there." Others think of a prominent old structure such as our very own Longwell Mansion (City Hall).

Yet, for the most part "historic building" refers to a building's age and architecture or to an entire older neighborhood, such as Main Street. Many older houses and buildings do not set themselves apart from their neighbors; they do contribute to the architectural history of the neighborhood. Preserving these individual buildings preserves the appearance of the neighborhood.

For more than 30 years, with much success, the City has worked toward ensuring the preservation and integrity of our older buildings and neighborhoods. Our earliest efforts include the creation of a National Register Historic District in 1976. This District encompasses much of the older parts of town and includes buildings that were constructed from the late 1700s thru 1900s. To see a map of the District go to: [www.westgov.com/citygov/documents/NationalRegisterDistrict.pdf](http://www.westgov.com/citygov/documents/NationalRegisterDistrict.pdf).

The City encourages preserving the appearance of our older homes, neighborhoods, churches, commercial and industrial buildings. We offer property tax rebates to owners who maintain, repair and/or improve their property (exterior: painting, porch repairs, new roof, etc. interior: repair/replacement of a new furnace, plumbing or electrical systems and interior rooms).

The Westminster Historic District Commission has been guiding the City's preservation efforts since 1992. At any one time, seven dedicated citizens serve on the Commission. They bring their professional talents and personal interests to every Commission meeting and their efforts are dedicated toward the education and promotion of historic preservation. They offer design advice and approve the tax credit applications for the eligible repair, replacement and improvements on homes and buildings.

To be eligible for the property tax credit there are guidelines and an application/approval process that needs to take place. For some basic information go to:

[www.westgov.com/citygov/documents/BasicGuidelinesforWestminsterHistoricRehab.pdf](http://www.westgov.com/citygov/documents/BasicGuidelinesforWestminsterHistoricRehab.pdf).

For additional information, contact Steven Sager, City Planner, at 410-848-7967 or [ssager@westgov.com](mailto:ssager@westgov.com).

## Heritage Tree Program

Westminster is home to many heritage trees.

In 2012, 12 trees were Nominated for recognition as a local Heritage Tree.



Included in the nominations are:

- **White Oak**, 377 years old and 90' tall; listed in the *Maryland Tree Book* and the National Registry. A 2<sup>nd</sup> **White Oak** that is 80' tall.
- **Black Mulberry**, with a circumference of 22'9" and recognized as one of the "Six Great Trees of Maryland".
- **Silver Maple**, with a crown of 110' is recognized as a "Big Tree Champion of Maryland".
- **Wye Oak**, certified descendent of Maryland's famous Wye Oak.
- **Sycamores**, two sycamore trees one 90' tall, and another 50' tall.
- **Sugar Maple**, 70 years old and 75' tall.
- **American Holly**, 55" tall.
- **American Hornbeam**, 85' tall.
- **Weeping Purple Beech Trees**, 45' tall and located on the City Hall grounds.
- **Cucumber Magnolia**, 35 years old and 33' tall.

Helping to guide the City's efforts is the Westminster Tree Commission. The Commission was created by the Mayor & Common Council in 1972 and consists of 6 dedicated citizens supported by 2 City staff.

### Links:

Tree Commission: [www.westminstermd.gov/citygov/citygov\\_tree.html](http://www.westminstermd.gov/citygov/citygov_tree.html)

Heritage Tree pictures: <https://picasaweb.google.com/WestminsterMD.gov/HeritageTreeProgram#5766206256852362354>

Heritage Tree Program: <http://www.westminstermd.gov/citygov/heritagetrees.htm>

For additional information contact Steven Sager, City Planner, at 410-848-7967 or [ssager@westgov.com](mailto:ssager@westgov.com)

## Save Energy During the Winter Months

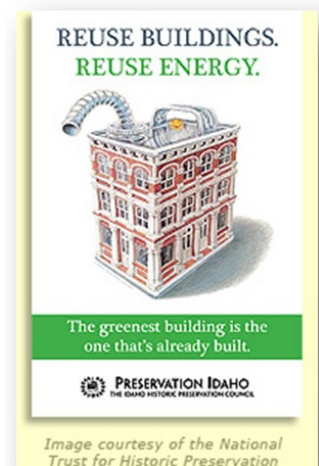
As winter sets in and cold winds howl around our historic streets and neighborhoods, thoughts turn to the upcoming holidays, anticipation of our first snowstorm, and the dreaded winter heating bills. If you live or work in one of the more than 1400 Historic buildings in our town, you may be reading this article next to an old wooden window, or a cast-iron radiator, sitting between un-insulated plaster walls, or behind an old, paneled hardwood front door. You're probably thinking about all the warm air escaping through all the cracks and crannies in those old features, and how you'll need to replace them to keep your house warm this winter.

If you're in this situation, the Westminster Historic District Commission urges you to peruse the National Trust for Historic Preservation's (NTHP) new web resource for winterizing historic structures:

<http://www.preservationnation.org/issues/weatherization/>.

The agency's goal is to promote the preservation of historic buildings and their key features by presenting research and best practices related to renovating old buildings to handle the extreme of winter weather. You may be surprised to find that your old home or office building has built-in features that were intended to increase its performance. Many of the recommended upgrades found on this site are eligible for rebates from your energy supplier, and tax credits from the federal government.

So preserve your old home, reduce your heating and cooling costs, and reduce your carbon footprint by learning how to work with your old building to increase its performance.



## Carroll Arts Center Events

**Friday, March 8 and Saturday, March 9, 8pm:** Barleyjuice returns to the stage for two live concerts! Barleyjuice are a beloved bunch of hooligans who were born out of Rock and Roll, reared on British Invasion, Country Western and Progressive Rock, and landed somewhere in the North Channel with a penchant for all things Celtic. Kyf Brewer, Keith "Swanny" Swanson, Shelley Weiss, Eric Worthington, and Gregor Schroeder will thoroughly entertain their audiences in what they describe as "their playground of musical misbehavior" filled with the sounds of bagpipes, fiddle, accordion, mandolin, bouzouki, whistle, piano, harmonica, bass and drums. Tickets are \$28 for Adults, and \$25 for CCAC Members, Seniors 60+ and Students 18 and under. The performances are sponsored by Westminster dentist Dr. Patrick Gallagher and Best Western Hotel. Wine, beer and snacks will be available for sale.

**Saturday, March 16, 3pm and 7pm:** Teelin Irish Dance Company returns to the Carroll Arts Center. The Teelin Irish Dance Company is known for their performances that accentuate the energy of Irish dance with envelope-pushing choreography. From the graceful beauty of jigs and reels, to the thundering beat of percussive dance, a performance by this company leaves audience members at the edge of their seats and wishing for more! The show fuses traditional and contemporary Irish dance and music in an exciting new way. The performances are sponsored by Manchester Family Medicine. Tickets are \$12 for Adults and \$10 for CCAC Members, Seniors 60+ and Students 18 and under.

**Saturday, April 27, 7pm:** Iron Ridge Bluegrass returns to the Carroll Arts Center. The 5-piece band is one of the region's premiere country music ensembles and they are dedicated to the preservation of the old-time traditional bluegrass in the style of Bill Monroe, Dr. Ralph Stanley and others. They have won numerous awards for their music, including the coveted top award at the Fiddler's Convention. Iron Ridge is comprised of Denny Kopp on mandolin, Jay Mosley on banjo, Joey Mosley and Doug Sims on guitar and train whistle and Max Allison on upright bass. Tickets for the concert are \$15 for adults and \$13 for Arts Council Members, Seniors 60+ and Students 18 & Under.

### 10x10 Anniversary Exhibit

It has been 10 years since the doors of the Carroll Arts Center opened to the community. To commemorate this special occasion, the Arts Center will be hosting a unique exhibit that will feature more than 120 works of art, each measuring exactly 10"x 10." Despite the uniformity in size, there is a wide range of styles and mediums including painting, drawing, printmaking, collage, sculpture, photography and mixed media.

All works are for sale for \$100 each, with 75% of the sale price going directly to the artist and the remaining 25% benefiting the Carroll County Arts Council.

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The exhibit will be on view April 15 through June 7, 2013 and is sponsored by Tevis Energy.

The 10th Anniversary reception will be on Thursday, April 18 from 5:30-7:30 pm. Members and participating artists will be admitted free. Admission for others is \$10. There will be musical entertainment, screenings "Building on the Memories," a documentary about the creation of the Arts Center, a sumptuous hors d'oeuvres buffet and a cash bar. Guest are encouraged to wear "celebratory attire" to this anniversary event. RSVP's will be required for members as well as the general public by calling 410-848-7272.



### 6th Annual PEEPshow

March 28—April 7: Get ready for March Marshmallow Madness! The Carroll Arts will be hosting its 6th annual PEEPshow. There is sure to be a record breaking number of extraordinary sculptures, dioramas and mosaics on view in this sweet family event. Last year's event featured 190 incredible creations crafted from or inspired by marshmallow Peeps!

This wacky event has quickly become one of the most anticipated community events attracting more than 12,000 visitors from the region. Previous year's events have attracted amazingly creative entries, including a life-sized Lorax, The "Peep Panther," "Todd Peep," "Justin Peeper" magical monsters, movie characters and other clever celebrations of pop culture, fine art and play on words. In addition there are even stop-action "Peep" films shown in the Arts Center's art deco movie theatre. Last year's entries featured an astounding total of 19,000 Peeps! The public can vote for their favorites by purchasing vote chips that will be sold for \$1 each, 10 for \$5, 25 for \$10, 75 for \$25 or 200 for \$50. Last year more than 13,000 votes were cast! Awards to those receiving the top six highest votes will be announced on Sunday, April 7. All proceeds will benefit the Carroll County Arts Council. There will also be an array of PEEP® souvenirs and treats for sale as well.

PEEPS® are a confection created by Just Born of Bethlehem Pennsylvania. What started as a hand-made Easter candy back in the 1940's is now available for just about every major holiday and comes in a rainbow of totally unnatural colors. The candy has achieved an almost cult-like following and several large metropolitan newspapers across the country have organized similar contests.

The PEEPshow is sponsored by local orthodontist, Dr. Edward M. Goldman and New Windsor State Bank with support from Just Born. Admission to the event is free. Hours are 10 am to 7 pm daily, including Easter Sunday. Voting will end at 4 pm on the final day of the event.



## 2013 Bulk Trash Schedule

### Bulk Trash Schedule for 2013

Reminder

This standard bulk trash collection schedule will be followed WITHOUT THE NEED TO CALL FOR A PICKUP. All bulk waste will be collected from residences throughout the City on this every-other-week schedule. Residents are required to place bulk pickup items out by 7a.m. on the pickup day to ensure collection.

<b>January</b> S M T WTh F S 1 <b>Y</b> 3 4 5 6 <b>T M Y E W</b> 12 13 14 15 <b>Y</b> 17 18 19 20 <b>N M Y E W</b> 26 27 28 29 <b>Y</b> 31	<b>February</b> S M T WTh F S 1 2 3 <b>T M Y E W</b> 9 10 11 12 <b>Y</b> 14 15 16 17 <b>N M Y E W</b> 23 24 25 26 <b>Y</b> 28	<b>March</b> S M T WTh F S 1 2 3 <b>T M Y E W</b> 9 10 11 12 <b>Y</b> 14 15 16 17 <b>T M Y E W</b> 23 24 25 26 <b>Y</b> 28 29 30 31
<b>April</b> S M T WTh F S <b>T M Y E W</b> 6 7 8 9 <b>Y</b> 11 12 13 14 <b>T M Y E W</b> 20 21 22 23 <b>Y</b> 25 26 27 28 <b>T M</b>	<b>May</b> S M T WTh F S <b>Y E W</b> 4 5 6 7 <b>Y</b> 9 10 11 12 <b>T M Y E W</b> 18 19 20 21 <b>Y</b> 23 24 25 27 <b>N M Y E W</b>	<b>June</b> S M T WTh F S 1 2 3 4 <b>Y</b> 6 7 8 9 <b>T M Y E W</b> 15 16 17 18 <b>Y</b> 20 21 22 23 <b>T M Y E W</b> 29 30
<b>July</b> S M T WTh F S 1 2 <b>Y</b> 4 5 6 7 <b>T M Y E W</b> 13 14 15 16 <b>Y</b> 18 19 20 21 <b>T M Y E W</b> 27 28 29 30 <b>Y</b>	<b>August</b> S M T WTh F S 1 2 3 4 <b>T M Y E W</b> 10 11 12 13 <b>Y</b> 15 16 17 18 <b>T M Y E W</b> 24 25 26 27 <b>Y</b> 29 30 31	<b>September</b> S M T WTh F S 1 <b>N M Y E W</b> 7 8 9 10 <b>Y</b> 12 13 14 15 <b>T M Y E W</b> 21 22 23 24 <b>Y</b> 26 27 28 29 30
<b>October</b> S M T WTh F S <b>M Y E W</b> 5 6 7 8 <b>Y</b> 10 11 12 13 <b>T M Y E W</b> 19 20 21 22 <b>Y</b> 24 25 26 27 <b>T M Y E</b>	<b>November</b> S M T WTh F S <b>W</b> 2 3 4 5 <b>Y</b> 7 8 9 10 <b>T M Y E W</b> 16 17 18 19 <b>Y</b> 21 22 23 24 <b>T M Y E W</b> 30	<b>December</b> S M T WTh F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 <b>T M Y E W</b> 14 15 16 17 <b>Y</b> 19 20 21 22 <b>T M N E W</b> 28 29 30 31

#### Pickup Schedule Key

- T** Tree limbs/Brush
- M** Metal, Tires, Batteries, Large Appliances
- Y** Yard waste
- E** Bulk Trash East of MD Rt31 \*including Village of Meadow Creek, excluding Carroll Meadows
- W** Bulk Trash West of MD Rt31 \*including Carroll Meadows, excluding Village of Meadow Creek
- N** NO PICKUP, City offices closed for Holiday

\*NOTE: If the scheduled pickup day falls on a City holiday, bulk trash items will be collected on the next scheduled date.